

Rules of the Sunbury Lawn Tennis Club Incorporated

Version 9 – 2018

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Note

Under section 46 of the **Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012**, these Rules are taken to constitute the terms of a contract between the Association and its members.

PART 1—PRELIMINARY

1 Name

The name of the incorporated association is "Sunbury Lawn Tennis Club Incorporated".

2 Purposes

The purposes of the association is to maintain the Sunbury Lawn Tennis Club as an inclusive, safe and fun organisation that provides a friendly environment for competitive and recreational tennis which promotes healthy habits for the benefit of the whole community.

3 Financial year

The financial year of the Association is each period of 12 months ending on 30 June.

4 Definitions

In these Rules—

absolute majority, of the Committee, means a majority of the Committee members currently holding office and entitled to vote at the time (as distinct from a majority of Committee members present at a committee meeting);

Association means the Sunbury Lawn Tennis Club Incorporated

Chairperson, of a general meeting or committee meeting, means the person chairing the meeting as required under rule 46;

Committee means the Committee having management of the business of the Association;

committee meeting means a meeting of the Committee held in accordance with these Rules;

committee member means a member of the Committee elected or appointed under Division 3 of Part 5;

disciplinary meeting means a meeting of the Committee convened for the purposes of rule 21;

disciplinary sub-committee means the sub-committee appointed under rule 20;

financial year means the 12 month period specified in rule 3;

general meeting means a general meeting of the members of the Association convened in accordance with Part 4 and includes an annual general meeting, a special general meeting and a disciplinary appeal meeting;

member means a member of the Association;

member entitled to vote means a member who under rule 13(2) is entitled to vote at a general meeting;

special resolution means a resolution that requires not less than three-quarters of the members voting at a general meeting, whether in person or by proxy, to vote in favour of the resolution;

the Act means the **Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012** and includes any regulations made under that Act;

the Registrar means the Registrar of Incorporated Associations.

PART 2—POWERS OF ASSOCIATION

5 Powers of Association

- (1) Subject to the Act, the Association has power to do all things incidental or conducive to achieve its purposes.
- (2) Without limiting sub-rule (1), the Association may—
 - (a) Acquire, hold and dispose of real or personal property;
 - (b) Open and operate accounts with financial institutions;
 - (c) Invest its money in any security in which trust monies may lawfully be invested;
 - (d) Raise and borrow money on any terms and in any manner as it thinks fit;
 - (e) Secure the repayment of money raised or borrowed, or the payment of a debt or liability;
 - (f) Appoint agents to transact business on its behalf;
 - (g) Enter into any other contract it considers necessary or desirable.
- (3) The Association may only exercise its powers and use its income and assets (including any surplus) for its purposes.

6 Not for profit organisation

- (1) The Association must not distribute any surplus, income or assets directly or indirectly to its members.
- (2) Sub-rule (1) does not prevent the Association from paying a member -
 - (a) Reimbursement for expenses properly incurred by the member; or
 - (b) For goods or services provided by the member, if this is done in good faith on terms no more favourable than if the member was not a member.

Note

Section 33 of the Act provides that an incorporated association must not secure pecuniary profit for its members. Section 4 of the Act sets out in more detail the circumstances under which an incorporated association is not taken to secure pecuniary profit for its members.

PART 3—MEMBERS, DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES AND GRIEVANCES

Division 1—Membership

7 Minimum number of members

The Association must have at least 5 members.

8 Who is eligible to be a member

Any person who supports the purposes of the Association and adheres to these Rules is eligible for membership.

9 Application for membership

- (1) To apply to become a member of the Association, a person must submit a written application to a committee member stating that the person -
 - (a) Wishes to become a member of the Association;
 - (b) Supports the purposes of the Association; and
 - (c) Agrees to comply with these Rules.
- (2) The application -
 - (a) Must be signed by the applicant (or the parent or guardian for a person under 18);
 - (b) May be accompanied by the joining fee.

Note

The joining fee is the fee (if any) determined by the Association under rule 12(1)(a).

10 Consideration of application

- (1) As soon as practicable after an application for membership is received, the Committee must decide by resolution whether to accept or reject the application.
- (2) The Committee must notify the applicant in writing of its decision as soon as practicable after the decision is made.
- (3) If the Committee rejects the application, it must return any money accompanying the application to the applicant.
- (4) No reason need be given for the rejection of an application.

11 New membership

- (1) If an application for membership is approved by the Committee -
 - (a) The resolution to accept the membership must be recorded in the minutes of the committee meeting; and
 - (b) A Committee member must, as soon as practicable, enter the name and address of the new member, and the date of becoming a member, in the register of members.
- (2) A person becomes a member of the Association and, subject to rule 13(2), is entitled to exercise his or her rights of membership from the date, whichever is the later, on which -
 - (a) The Committee approves the person's membership; or
 - (b) The person pays all fees payable.

12 Annual subscription and fee on joining

- (1) At each annual general meeting, the Association must determine -
 - (a) The amount of the annual subscription, joining fee and Committee members honorariums recommended by the Committee for the following financial year;
 - (b) The date for payment of the annual subscription.

The Committee will determine amounts payable for all competitive tennis (including intra-club and club championships) levies (including maintenance) and late payment of annual subscriptions).

- (2) Any new member who joins after the start of a financial year must, for that financial year, pay a fee equal to—
 - (a) The full annual subscription; or

- (b) A pro-rata annual subscription based on the remaining part of the financial year as determined by the Committee; or
 - (c) A fixed amount determined from time to time by the Committee.
- (3) The rights of a member (including the right to vote) who has not paid the annual subscription by the due date are suspended until the subscription is paid.

13 General rights of members

- (1) A member of the Association who is entitled to vote has the right to
- (a) Receive notice of general meetings and of proposed special resolutions in the manner and time prescribed by these Rules;
 - (b) Submit items of business for consideration at a general meeting;
 - (c) Attend and be heard at general meetings;
 - (d) Vote at a general meeting;
 - (e) Have access to the minutes of general meetings and other documents of the Association as provided under rule 70;
 - (f) Inspect the register of members.
- (2) A member is entitled to vote if -
- (a) The member is a member, other than a junior member or coaching member; and
 - (b) More than 10 business days have passed since he or she became a member of the Association; and
 - (c) The member's membership rights are not suspended for any reason.

14 Classes of membership

- (1) There shall be the following classes of membership -
- a) Honorary Life (a person approved by the Committee and approved at an annual general meeting in recognition of services rendered in promoting the interests of the Association)
 - b) Junior (a person less than 18 years at the beginning of the financial year)
 - c) Full
 - d) Family (2 persons who are in a full-time relationship by way of marriage or defacto with any number of children);
 - e) Full-time dependant student (a person who is undertaking full-time education at a recognised school or institution and is wholly dependent on another person)
 - f) Coaching membership – for those starting off but not playing any competition
 - g) Club Sponsor – 1 adult membership for each sponsor
 - h) Any other category of member as determined by special resolution at a general meeting.
- (2) A junior member or coaching member must not vote but may have other rights as determined by the Committee or by resolution at a general meeting.

15 Rights not transferable

The rights of a member are not transferable and end when membership ceases.

16 Ceasing membership

- (1) The membership of a person ceases on resignation, expulsion or death.

- (2) If a person ceases to be a member of the Association, the Secretary must, as soon as practicable, enter the date the person ceased to be a member in the register of members.

17 Resigning as a member

- (1) A member may resign by written or electronic notice given to the Association.

Note

Rule 69(3) sets out how notice may be given to the association. It includes by post or by handing the notice to a member of the committee.

- (2) A member is taken to have resigned if -
 - (a) The member's annual subscription fees are more than 1 month in arrears; and
 - (b) A reminder email has been sent if fees have not been paid by the due date, providing an additional 30 days for payment.
- (3) A member who resigns or is taken to have resigned is not entitled to the return of the whole or any part of the annual subscription or any other fees.

18 Register of members

- (1) The Secretary or delegate must keep and maintain a register of members that includes -
 - (a) For each current member—
 - (i) The member's name;
 - (ii) The address for notice last given by the member;
 - (iii) The date of becoming a member;
 - (iv) The membership classification;
 - (v) Any other information determined by the Committee; -
- (2) Any member may, upon written request to the Committee, at a reasonable time and free of charge, inspect the register of members.

Note

Under section 59 of the Act, access to the personal information of a person recorded in the register of members may be restricted in certain circumstances. Section 58 of the Act provides that it is an offence to make improper use of information about a person obtained from the Register of Members.

Division 2—Disciplinary action

19 Grounds for taking disciplinary action

The Association may take disciplinary action against a member in accordance with this Division if it is determined that the member—

- (a) Has failed to comply with these Rules;
- (b) Refuses to support the purposes of the Association;
- (c) Has engaged in conduct prejudicial to the Association.

20 Disciplinary sub-committee

- (1) All disciplinary hearings will be held by the current committee including office bearers and general committee members. There must be at least 5 members present and a chairperson is to be elected.

21 Notice to member

- (1) Before disciplinary action is taken against a member, the Secretary must give written notice to the member -
 - (a) Stating the grounds for the proposed disciplinary action.
 - (b) Specifying the date, place and time of the meeting at which the committee intends to consider the action.
 - (d) Advising the member that they may do one or both of the following -
 - (i) Attend the disciplinary meeting and address the disciplinary sub-committee at that meeting;
 - (ii) Give a written statement to the disciplinary sub-committee at any time before the disciplinary meeting..
- (2) The notice must be given at least 14 days before the meeting is to be held.

22 Decision of sub-committee

- (1) At the disciplinary meeting, the disciplinary committee must have appointed a chairperson to ensure -
 - (a) The member has had an opportunity to be heard;
 - (b) Consider any written statement submitted by the member.
- (2) At the conclusion of the meeting the committee may:
 - (a) Make further enquiries prior to making a determination;
 - (b) Take no further action against the member;
 - (c) Reprimand the member;
 - (d) Suspend the member;
 - (e) Expel the member from the association.
- (3) The decision is upheld if a majority of the Committee members present at the meeting confirm the decision. In the event of a tied vote the Committee Chairperson will have the casting vote.
- (4) The suspension of membership rights or the expulsion of a member by the committee will take effect immediately after the vote is passed. Notice must be given in writing to the person(s) concerned within 48 hours.

23 Appeal rights

- (1) The decision of the committee is final. There will be no right of appeal and the decision will be binding on all parties.

Division 3—Grievance procedure

24 Application

- (1) The grievance procedure set out in this Division applies to disputes under these Rules between a -
 - (a) Member and another member;
 - (b) Member and the Committee;
 - (c) Member and the Association.

- (2) Any dispute that requires a grievance procedure will be directed to Tennis Australia and their specialised integrity unit for resolution.

PART 4—GENERAL MEETINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION

25 Annual general meetings

- (1) The Committee must convene an annual general meeting of the Association to be held within 5 months after the end of each financial year.
- (2) Despite sub-rule(1), the Association may hold its first annual general meeting at any time within 18 months after its incorporation.
- (3) The Committee may determine the date, time and place of the annual general meeting.
- (4) The ordinary business of the annual general meeting is as follows -
 - (a) To confirm the minutes of the previous annual general meeting and of any special general meeting held since then;
 - (b) To receive and consider -
 - (i) The annual report of the Committee on the activities of the Association during the preceding financial year;
 - (ii) The financial statements of the Association for the preceding financial year submitted by the Committee in accordance with Part 7 of the Act;
 - (c) To elect the members of the Committee;
 - (d) To confirm or vary the amounts (if any) of the annual subscription and joining fee.
- (5) The annual general meeting may also conduct any other business of which notice has been given in accordance with these Rules.

26 Special general meetings

- (1) Any general meeting of the Association, other than an annual general meeting or a disciplinary appeal meeting, is a special general meeting.
- (2) The Committee may convene a special general meeting whenever it thinks fit.
- (3) No business other than that set out in the notice under rule 28 may be conducted at the meeting.

Note

General business may be considered at the meeting if it is included as an item for consideration in the notice under rule 28 and the majority of members at the meeting agree.

27 Special general meeting held at request of members

- (1) The Committee must convene a special general meeting if a request to do so is made in accordance with sub-rule (2) by at least 10% of the total number of members.
- (2) A request for a special general meeting must -
 - (a) Be in writing;
 - (b) State the business to be considered at the meeting and any resolutions to be proposed;
 - (c) Include the names and signatures of the members requesting the meeting;
 - (d) Be given to the Secretary.

- (3) If the Committee does not convene a special general meeting within one month after the date on which the request is made, the members making the request (or any of them) may convene the special general meeting.
- (4) A special general meeting convened by members under sub-rule (3) -
 - (a) Must be held within 3 months after the date on which the original request was made;
 - (b) May only consider the business stated in that request.
- (5) The Association must reimburse all reasonable expenses incurred by the members convening a special general meeting under sub-rule (3).

28 Notice of general meetings

- (1) The Secretary (or, in the case of a special general meeting convened under rule 27(3), the members convening the meeting) must give to each member of the Association -
 - (a) a least 21 days' notice of a general meeting if a special resolution is to be proposed at the meeting; or
 - (b) a least 14 days' notice of a general meeting in any other case.
- (2) The notice must -
 - (a) Specify the date, time and place of the meeting;
 - (b) Document the general nature of each item of business to be considered at the meeting;
 - (c) If a special resolution is to be proposed -
 - (i) State in full the proposed resolution;
 - (ii) State the intention to propose the resolution as a special resolution; and
 - (d) Comply with rule 29(5).

29 Proxies

- (1) A member may appoint another member as his or her proxy to vote and speak on his or her behalf at a general meeting.
- (2) The appointment of a proxy must be in writing and signed by the member making the appointment.
- (3) The member appointing the proxy may give specific directions as to how the proxy is to vote on his or her behalf, otherwise the proxy may vote on behalf of the member in any matter as he or she sees fit.
- (4) If the Committee has approved a form for the appointment of a proxy, the member may use any other form that clearly identifies the person appointed as the member's proxy and that has been signed by the member.
- (5) Notice of a general meeting given to a member under rule 28 must -
 - (a) State that the member may appoint another member as a proxy for the meeting;
 - (b) Include a copy of any form that the Committee has approved for the appointment of a proxy.
- (6) A form appointing a proxy must be given to the Chairperson of the meeting before or at the commencement of the meeting.
- (7) A form appointing a proxy sent by post or electronically is of no effect unless it is received by the Association no later than 24 hours before the commencement of the meeting.

30 Use of technology

- (1) A member not physically present at a general meeting may be permitted to participate in the meeting by the use of technology that allows that member and the members present at the meeting to clearly and simultaneously communicate with each other.
- (2) For the purposes of this Part, a member participating in a general meeting as permitted under sub-rule (1) is taken to be present at the meeting and, if the member votes at the meeting, is taken to have voted in person.

31 Quorum at general meetings

- (1) No business may be conducted at a general meeting unless a quorum of members is present.
- (2) The quorum for a general meeting is the presence (physically, by proxy or as allowed under rule 30) of 10 members or 10% of the members entitled to vote (whichever is the smaller).
- (3) If a quorum is not present within 30 minutes after the notified commencement time of a general meeting -
 - (a) In the case of a meeting convened by, or at the request of, members under rule 27 - the meeting must be dissolved;

Note

If a meeting convened by, or at the request of, members is dissolved under this sub-rule, the business that was to have been considered at the meeting is taken to have been dealt with. If members wish to have the business reconsidered at another special meeting, the members must make a new request under rule 27.

- (b) In any other case -
 - (i) The meeting must be adjourned to a date not more than 21 days after the adjournment; and
 - (ii) Notice of the date, time and place to which the meeting is adjourned must be given at the meeting and confirmed by written notice given to all members as soon as practicable after the meeting.
- (4) If a quorum is not present within 30 minutes after the time to which a general meeting has been adjourned under sub-rule (3)(b), the members present at the meeting (if not fewer than 3) may proceed with the business of the meeting as if a quorum were present.

32 Adjournment of general meeting

- (1) The Chairperson of a general meeting at which a quorum is present may, with the consent of a majority of members present at the meeting, adjourn the meeting to another time at the same place or at another place.
- (2) Without limiting sub-rule (1), a meeting may be adjourned -
 - (a) If there is insufficient time to deal with the business at hand; or
 - (b) To give the members more time to consider an item of business.

Example

The members may wish to have more time to examine the financial statements submitted by the Committee at an annual general meeting.

- (3) No business may be conducted on the resumption of an adjourned meeting other than the business that remained unfinished when the meeting was adjourned.

- (4) Notice of the adjournment of a meeting under this rule is not required unless the meeting is adjourned for 14 days or more, in which case notice of the meeting must be given in accordance with rule 28.

33 Voting at general meeting

- (1) On any question arising at a general meeting -
 - (a) Subject to sub rule (3), each member who is entitled to vote has one vote;
 - (b) Members may vote personally or by proxy;
 - (c) Except in the case of a special resolution, the question must be decided on a majority of votes.
- (2) If votes are divided equally on a question, the Chairperson has a second or casting vote.
- (3) If the question is whether or not to confirm the minutes of a previous meeting, only members who were present at that meeting may vote.

34 Special resolutions

A special resolution is passed if not less than three quarters of the members voting at a general meeting (whether in person or by proxy) vote in favour of the resolution.

Note

In addition to certain matters specified in the Act, a special resolution is required—

- (a) To remove a committee member from office ;
- (b) To alter these Rules, including changing the name or any of the purposes of the Association.

35 Determining whether resolution carried

- (1) Subject to sub-section (2), the Chairperson of a general meeting may, on the basis of a show of hands, declare that a resolution has been -
 - (a) Carried;
 - (b) Carried unanimously;
 - (c) Carried by a particular majority; or
 - (d) Lostand an entry to that effect in the minutes of the meeting is conclusive proof of that fact.
- (2) If a poll (where votes are cast in writing) is demanded by three or more members on any question -
 - (a) The poll must be taken at the meeting in the manner determined by the Chairperson of the meeting; and
 - (b) The Chairperson must declare the result of the resolution on the basis of the poll.
- (3) A poll demanded on the election of the Chairperson or on a question of an adjournment must be taken immediately.
- (4) A poll demanded on any other question must be taken before the close of the meeting at a time determined by the Chairperson.

36 Minutes of general meeting

- (1) The Committee must ensure that minutes are taken and kept of each general meeting.

- (2) The minutes must record the business considered at the meeting, any resolution on which a vote is taken and the result of the vote.
- (3) In addition, the minutes of each annual general meeting must include -
 - (a) The names of the members attending the meeting;
 - (b) Proxy forms given to the Chairperson of the meeting under rule 29(6);
 - (c) The financial statements submitted to the members in accordance with rule 25(4)(b)(ii); and
 - (d) The certificate signed by two committee members certifying that the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the Association;
 - (e) Audited accounts and auditor's report or report of a review accompanying the financial statements that are required under the Act.

PART 5—COMMITTEE

Division 1—Powers of Committee

37 Role and powers

- (1) The business of the Association must be managed by or under the direction of a Committee.
- (2) The Committee may exercise all the powers of the Association except those powers that these Rules or the Act require to be exercised by general meetings of the members of the Association.
- (3) The Committee may -
 - (a) Appoint and remove staff;
 - (b) Establish sub-committees consisting of members with terms of reference it considers appropriate
 - (b) Create by-laws to maintain control of the Association and the efficient conduct of its affairs..

38 Delegation

- (1) The Committee may delegate to a member of the Committee, a sub-committee or staff, any of its powers and functions other than -
 - (a) This power of delegation; or
 - (b) A duty imposed on the Committee by the Act or any other law.
- (2) The delegation must be in writing and may be subject to the conditions and limitations the Committee considers appropriate.
- (3) The Committee may, in writing, revoke a delegation wholly or in part.

Division 2—Composition of Committee and duties of members

39 Composition of Committee

The Committee consists of—

- (a) President
- (b) Vice-President

- (c) Secretary
- (d) Treasurer
- (e) Publicity Officer
- (f) Match Committee Coordinator
- (g) Maintenance
- (h) Junior tennis Coordinator
- (i) Ladies Tennis Coordinator
- (j) Purchasing officer
- (k) Ordinary / General (if any) elected under rule 48

The immediate past President shall be an ex-officio member of the Committee.

40 General duties of committee members

- (1) As soon as practicable after being elected or appointed to the Committee, each committee member must become familiar with these Rules and the Act.
- (2) The Committee is collectively responsible for ensuring that the Association complies with the Act and that individual members of the Committee comply with these Rules.
- (3) Committee members must exercise their powers and discharge their duties with reasonable care and diligence.
- (4) Committee members must exercise their powers and discharge their duties—
 - (a) In good faith in the best interests of the Association; and
 - (b) For a proper purpose.
- (5) Committee members and former committee members must not make improper use of -
 - (a) Their position;
 - (b) Information acquired by virtue of holding their position -
 so as to gain an advantage for themselves or any other person or to cause detriment to the Association.

Note

See also Division 3 of Part 6 of the Act which sets out the general duties of the office holders of an incorporated association.

- (6) In addition to any duties imposed by these Rules, a committee member must perform any other duties imposed from time to time by resolution at a general meeting.

41 President and Vice-President

- (1) Subject to sub-rule (2), the President or, in the President's absence, the Vice-President is the Chairperson for any general meetings and for any committee meetings.

The President shall be an ex-officio member of all sub-committees.

- (2) If the President and the Vice-President are both absent, or are unable to preside, the Chairperson of the meeting must be -
 - (a) In the case of a general meeting - a member elected by the other members present; or
 - (b) In the case of a committee meeting - a committee member elected by the other committee members present.

42 Secretary

- (1) The Secretary must perform any duty or function required under the Act to be performed by the secretary of an incorporated association.

Example

Under the Act, the secretary of an incorporated association is responsible for lodging documents of the association with the Registrar.

- (2) The Secretary must—
 - (a) Maintain the register of members in accordance with rule 18;
 - (b) Keep custody of the common seal (if any) of the Association and, except for the financial records referred to in rule 65(3), all books, documents and securities of the Association in accordance with rules 67 and 70;
 - (c) Subject to the Act and these Rules, provide members with access to the register of members, the minutes of general meetings and other books and documents;
 - (d) Perform any other duty or function imposed on the Secretary by these Rules.
- (3) The Secretary must give to the Registrar notice of his or her appointment within 14 days after the appointment.

43 Treasurer

- (1) The Treasurer must -
 - (a) Receive all moneys paid to or received by the Association and issue receipts for those moneys in the name of the Association; and
 - (b) Ensure that all moneys received are paid into the account of the Association within 10 working days after receipt; and
 - (c) Make any payments authorised by the Committee or by a general meeting of the Association from the Association's funds;
 - (d) Ensure cheques are signed by at least 2 persons being either the Treasurer, President or Secretary.
- (2) The Treasurer must -
 - (a) Ensure that the financial records of the Association are kept in accordance with the Act; and
 - (b) Coordinate the preparation of the financial statements of the Association and their certification by the Committee prior to their submission to the annual general meeting of the Association.
- (3) The Treasurer must ensure that at least one other committee member has access to the accounts and financial records of the Association.

Division 3—Election of Committee members and tenure of office

44 Who is eligible to be a Committee member

A member is eligible to be elected or appointed as a committee member if the member -

- (a) Is 18 years or over; and
- (b) Is entitled to vote at a general meeting.

45 Positions to be declared vacant

- (1) This rule applies to -

- (a) The first annual general meeting of the Association after its incorporation; or
 - (b) Any subsequent annual general meeting of the Association, after the annual report and financial statements of the Association have been received.
- (2) The Chairperson of the meeting must declare all positions on the Committee vacant and hold elections for those positions in accordance with rules 46 to 49.

46 Nominations

- (1) Prior to the election of each position, the Chairperson of the meeting must call for nominations to fill that position.
- (2) An eligible member of the Association may -
- (a) Nominate himself or herself; or
 - (b) With the member's consent, be nominated by another member.
- (3) A member who is nominated for a position and fails to be elected to that position may be nominated for any other position for which an election is yet to be held.

47 Election of President

- (1) At the annual general meeting, separate elections must be held for each of the following positions—
- (a) President
 - (b) Vice-President
 - (c) Secretary
 - (d) Treasurer
 - (e) Publicity Officer
 - (f) Match co coordinator
 - (g) Maintenance
 - (h) Junior tennis Coordinator
 - (i) Ladies Tennis Coordinator
 - (j) Purchasing officer
 - (k) Ordinary/General (if any) elected under rule 48
- (2) If only one member is nominated for the position, the Chairperson of the meeting must declare the member elected to the position.
- (3) If more than one member is nominated, a ballot must be held in accordance with rule 49.
- (4) On his or her election, the new President may take over as Chairperson of the meeting.

48 Election of ordinary members

- (1) The annual general meeting must by resolution decide the number of ordinary members of the Committee (if any) it wishes to hold office for the next year.
- (2) A single election may be held to fill all of those positions.
- (3) If the number of members nominated for the position of ordinary committee member is less than or equal to the number to be elected, the Chairperson of the meeting must declare each of those members to be elected to the position.
- (4) If the number of members nominated exceeds the number to be elected, a ballot must be held in accordance with rule 49.

49 Ballot

- (1) If a ballot is required for the election for a position, the Chairperson of the meeting must appoint a member to act as returning officer to conduct the ballot.
- (2) The returning officer must not be a member nominated for the position.
- (3) Before the ballot is taken, each candidate may make a short speech in support of his or her election.
- (4) The election must be by secret ballot.
- (5) The returning officer must give a blank piece of paper to -
 - (a) Each member present in person; and
 - (b) Each proxy appointed by a member.

Example

If a member has been appointed the proxy of 5 other members, the member must be given 6 ballot papers—one for the member and one each for the other members.

- (6) If the ballot is for a single position, the voter must write on the ballot paper the name of the candidate for whom they wish to vote.
- (7) If the ballot is for more than one position -
 - (a) The voter must write on the ballot paper the name of each candidate for whom they wish to vote;
 - (b) The voter must not write the names of more candidates than the number to be elected.
- (8) Ballot papers that do not comply with sub-rule (7)(b) are not to be counted.
- (9) Each ballot paper on which the name of a candidate has been written counts as one vote for that candidate.
- (10) The returning officer must declare elected the candidate or, in the case of an election for more than one position, the candidates who received the most votes.
- (11) If the returning officer is unable to declare the result of an election under sub-rule (10) because 2 or more candidates received the same number of votes, the returning officer must -
 - (a) Conduct a further election for the position in accordance with sub-rules (4) to (10) to decide which of those candidates is to be elected; or
 - (b) With the agreement of those candidates, decide by lot which of them is to be elected.

Examples

The choice of candidate may be decided by the toss of a coin, drawing straws or drawing a name out of a hat.

50 Term of office

- (1) Subject to sub-rule (3) and rule 51, a committee member holds office until the positions of the Committee are declared vacant at the next annual general meeting.
- (2) A committee member may be re-elected.
- (3) A general meeting of the Association may -
 - (a) By special resolution remove a committee member from office; and

- (b) Elect an eligible member of the Association to fill the vacant position in accordance with this Division.
- (4) A member who is the subject of a proposed special resolution under sub-rule (3)(a) may make representations in writing to the Secretary or President of the Association (not exceeding a reasonable length) and may request that the representations be provided to the members of the Association.
- (5) The Secretary or the President may give a copy of the representations to each member of the Association or, if they are not so given, the member may require that they be read out at the meeting at which the special resolution is to be proposed.

51 Vacation of office

- (1) A committee member may resign from the Committee by written or electronic notice addressed to a member of the Committee.
- (2) A person ceases to be a committee member if he or she -
 - (a) Ceases to be a member of the Association;
 - (b) Fails to attend 3 consecutive committee meetings (other than special or urgent committee meetings) without leave of absence under rule 62;
 - (c) Otherwise ceases to be a committee member by operation of section 78 of the Act.

Note

A Committee member may not hold the office of secretary if they do not reside in Australia.

52 Filling casual vacancies

- (1) The Committee may appoint an eligible member of the Association to fill a position on the Committee that -
 - (a) Has become vacant under rule 51; or
 - (b) Was not filled by election at the last annual general meeting.
- (2) If the position of Secretary becomes vacant, the Committee must appoint a member to the position within 14 days after the vacancy arises.
- (3) Rule 50 applies to any committee member appointed by the Committee under sub-rule (1) or (2).
- (4) The Committee may continue to act despite any vacancy in its membership.

Division 4—Meetings of Committee

53 Meetings of Committee

- (1) The Committee must meet at least 4 times in each year at the dates, times and places determined by the Committee.
- (2) The date, time and place of the first committee meeting must be determined by the members of the Committee as soon as practicable after the annual general meeting of the Association at which the members of the Committee were elected.
- (3) Special committee meetings may be convened by the President or by any members of the Committee.

54 Notice of meetings

- (1) Notice of each committee meeting must be given to each committee member no later than 7 days before the date of the meeting.
- (2) Notice may be given of more than one committee meeting at the same time.
- (3) The notice must state the date, time and place of the meeting.
- (4) If a special committee meeting is convened, the notice must include the general nature of the business to be conducted.
- (5) The only business that may be conducted at the meeting is the business for which the meeting is convened.

55 Urgent meetings

- (1) In cases of urgency, a meeting can be held without notice being given in accordance with rule 54 provided that as much notice as practicable is given to each committee member by the quickest means practicable.
- (2) Any resolution made at the meeting must be passed by an absolute majority of the Committee.
- (3) The only business that may be conducted at an urgent meeting is the business for which the meeting is convened.

56 Procedure and order of business

- (1) The procedure to be followed at a meeting of a Committee must be determined from time to time by the Committee.
- (2) The order of business is determined by the chairperson the meeting.
- (3) For disciplinary, confidential or sensitive matters, the Chairperson may direct that only Committee members can be present for all or part of a committee meeting.

57 Use of technology

- (1) A committee member who is not physically present at a committee meeting may participate in the meeting by the use of technology that allows that committee member and the committee members present at the meeting to clearly and simultaneously communicate with each other.
- (2) For the purposes of this Part, a committee member participating in a committee meeting as permitted under sub-rule (1) is taken to be present at the meeting and, if the member votes at the meeting, is taken to have voted in person.

58 Quorum

- (1) No business may be conducted at a Committee meeting unless a quorum is present.
- (2) The quorum for a committee meeting is the presence (in person or as allowed under rule 57) of 4 committee members holding office.
- (3) If a quorum is not present within 30 minutes after the notified commencement time of a committee meeting—
 - (a) In the case of a special meeting - the meeting lapses;
 - (b) In any other case - the meeting must be adjourned to a date no later than 14 days after the adjournment and notice of the time, date and place to which the meeting is adjourned must be given in accordance with rule 54.

59 Voting

- (1) On any question arising at a committee meeting, each committee member present at the meeting has one vote.
- (2) A motion is carried if a majority of committee members present at the meeting vote in favour of the motion.
- (3) Sub-rule (2) does not apply to any motion or question which is required by these Rules to be passed by an absolute majority of the Committee.
- (4) If votes are divided equally on a question, the Chairperson of the meeting has a second or casting vote.
- (5) Voting by proxy is not permitted.

60 Conflict of interest

- (1) A committee member who has a material personal interest in a matter being considered at a committee meeting must disclose the nature and extent of that interest to the Committee.
- (2) The member—
 - (a) Must not be present while the matter is being considered at the meeting; and
 - (b) Must not vote on the matter.

Note

Under section 81(3) of the Act, if there are insufficient committee members to form a quorum because a member who has a material personal interest is disqualified from voting on a matter, a general meeting may be called to deal with the matter.

- (3) This rule does not apply to a material personal interest -
 - (a) That exists only because the member belongs to a class of persons for whose benefit the Association is established; or
 - (b) That the member has in common with all, or a substantial proportion of, the members of the Association.

61 Minutes of meeting

- (1) The Committee must ensure that minutes are taken and kept of each committee meeting.
- (2) The minutes must record the following—
 - (a) The names of the members in attendance at the meeting;
 - (b) The business considered at the meeting;
 - (c) Any resolution on which a vote is taken and the result of the vote;
 - (d) Any material personal interest disclosed under rule 60.

62 Leave of absence

- (1) The Committee may grant a committee member leave of absence from committee meetings for a period not exceeding 3 months.
- (2) The Committee must not grant leave of absence retrospectively unless it is satisfied that it was not feasible for the committee member to seek the leave in advance.

PART 6—FINANCIAL MATTERS

63 Source of funds

The funds of the Association may be derived from joining fees, annual subscriptions, donations, fund-raising activities, grants, interest and any other sources approved by the Committee.

64 Management of funds

- (1) The Association must open an account with a financial institution from which all expenditure of the Association is made and into which all of the Association's revenue is deposited.
- (2) Subject to any restrictions imposed by a general meeting of the Association, the Committee may approve expenditure on behalf of the Association.
- (3) The Committee may authorise the Treasurer to expend funds on behalf of the Association up to a specified limit without requiring approval from the Committee for each item on which the funds are expended.
- (4) All cheques, drafts, bills of exchange, promissory notes and other negotiable instruments must be signed by 2 of either the President, Treasurer or Secretary.
- (5) All funds of the Association must be deposited into the financial account of the Association no later than 10 working days after receipt.
- (6) With the approval of the Committee, the Treasurer may maintain a cash float provided that all money paid from or paid into the float is accurately recorded at the time of the transaction.

65 Financial records

- (1) The Association must keep financial records that -
 - (a) Correctly record and explain its transactions, financial position and performance;
 - (b) Enable financial statements to be prepared as required by the Act.
- (2) The Association must retain the financial records for 7 years after the transactions covered by the records are completed.
- (3) The Treasurer must keep in his or her custody, or under his or her control -
 - (a) The financial records for the current financial year;
 - (b) Any other financial records as authorised by the Committee.

66 Financial statements

- (1) For each financial year, the Committee must ensure that the requirements under the Act relating to the financial statements of the Association are met.
- (2) Without limiting sub-rule (1), those requirements include -
 - (a) The preparation of the financial statements;
 - (b) The review or auditing of the financial statements;
 - (c) The certification of the financial statements by the Committee;
 - (d) The submission of the financial statements to the annual general meeting of the Association;

- (e) The lodgement with the Registrar of the financial statements and accompanying reports, certificates, statements and fee.

PART 7—GENERAL MATTERS

67 Common seal

- (1) The Association may have a common seal.
- (2) If the Association has a common seal -
 - (a) The name of the Association must appear in legible characters on the common seal;
 - (b) A document may only be sealed with the common seal by the authority of the Committee and the sealing must be witnessed by the signatures of two committee members;
 - (c) The common seal must be kept in the custody of the Secretary.

68 Registered address

The registered address of the Association is -

- (a) The address determined from time to time by resolution of the Committee; or
- (b) If the Committee has not determined an address to be the registered address - the postal address of the Secretary.

69 Notice requirements

- (1) Any notice required to be given to a member or a committee member under these Rules may be given—
 - (a) By handing the notice to the member personally; or
 - (b) By sending it by post to the member at the address recorded for the member on the register of members; or
 - (c) by email, facsimile transmission notice on the Associations' clubhouse noticeboard or the Association's website.
- (2) Sub-rule (1) does not apply to notice given under rule 55.
- (3) Any notice required to be given to the Association or the Committee may be given -
 - (a) By handing the notice to a member of the Committee;
 - (b) By sending the notice by post to the registered address;
 - (c) By leaving the notice at the registered address; or
 - (d) If the Committee determines that it is appropriate in the circumstances -
 - (i) By email to the email address of the Association or the Secretary; or
 - (ii) By facsimile transmission to the facsimile number of the Association.

70 Custody and inspection of books and records

- (1) Members may on request inspect free of charge -
 - (a) The register of members;
 - (b) The minutes of general meetings;

- (c) Subject to sub-rule (2), the financial records, books, securities and any other relevant document of the Association, including minutes of Committee meetings.

Note

See note following rule 18 for details of access to the register of members.

- (2) The Committee may refuse to permit a member to inspect records of the Association that relate to confidential, personal, employment, commercial or legal matters or where to do so may be prejudicial to the interests of the Association.
- (3) The Committee must on request make copies of these rules available to members and applicants for membership free of charge.
- (4) Subject to sub-rule (2), a member may make a copy of any of the other records of the Association referred to in this rule and the Association may charge a reasonable fee for provision of a copy of such a record.
- (5) For purposes of this rule -

relevant documents means the records and other documents, however compiled, recorded or stored, that relate to the incorporation and management of the Association and includes the following -

- (a) Its membership records;
- (b) Its financial statements;
- (c) Its financial records;
- (d) Records and documents relating to transactions, dealings, business or property of the Association.

71 Winding up and cancellation

- (1) The Association may be wound up voluntarily by special resolution.
- (2) In the event of the winding up or the cancellation of the incorporation of the Association, the surplus assets of the Association must not be distributed to any members or former members of the Association.
- (3) Subject to the Act and any court order made under section 133 of the Act, the surplus assets must be given to a body that has similar purposes to the Association and which is not carried on for the profit or gain of its individual members.
- (4) The body to which the surplus assets are to be given must be decided by special resolution.

72 Alteration of Rules

These Rules may only be altered by special resolution of a general meeting of the Association.

73 Honorariums

Committee members are entitled to receive an annual honorarium not exceeding the amount approved. The amount of the honorarium shall be determined at the Annual General Meeting.

Members performing volunteer work for the Association may be entitled to an honorarium not exceeding the amount of the member's annual fee.

The amount of the honorarium will be determined by the Committee.